



**KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY CLLR Bridget Ntshangase at Isibani
Sesizwe Prayer
9 MARCH 2017
Prayer**

Programme Director,
Abefundisi
Ladies and gentlemen,
All protocol observed,
Good evening, sanibonani

1. Yesterday we celebrated international women's day. The struggle against patriarchy continues, as this municipality we are happy to be led by a woman. We feel that we are ready for a female president.
2. We must use this prayer occasion to pray for our women leaders who face attacks daily. They are accused of incompetency, if they are in high position they are reduced to ex-wives or to ex-girlfriends and sometimes of chasing after Ben10 as we have read recently.
3. Hence we need to pray and also to hold our hands together during this hour.

4. Prayer is an important pillar of our democracy and nation, even our national anthem is based on prayer. This shows that we are a praying nation and prayer is what unites us.
5. We need to pray for our leaders and those in authority so that there is peace and stability in our country.
6. We need to pray for our councilors especially in KZN, where we have witnessed the killing of councilors. We welcome the commission announced by our premier to investigate the political killings and we hope it will assist us.
7. We also need to pray for our society especially for those who are sick, stressed, poor and in prisons. This is according to the instruction by the Bible.
8. We need to see those who are sick receiving their healing. We must continue to pray for our scientists to find solutions for some of the diseases affecting this nation such as TB and HIV&Aids.
9. We must pray that God saves us from natural disasters which we are prone to as this province. We have seen people dying because of storms and thunders.
10. Lastly, we must pray against the social ills such as drug abuse, alcohol abuse, teenage pregnancy, violence and crime.
11. We must together pray and also find short or long term solutions by working together.
12. Our children including girls, are abusing drugs and have turned to be hobos (amaphara) on our streets. Some of them have turned to prostitution because they want to feed this habit.
13. A solution and prayer is required to save these children, including our teenagers who drop out of schools due to pregnancy.

14. We are a praying nation. We will find solutions for all of our social ills.